

## **Cold case charges headed to trial**

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### **Brother accused of molesting sister**

ALBUQUERQUE - Attorney General Hector Balderas announced Dec. 18 that San Juan County Magistrate Court Judge Rena Scott found probable cause to believe Michael Stevens committed six first-degree felonies in 2009 by sexually assaulting his sister.

“My office’s top priority is to prosecute any individual accused of violent, sexual acts against minors,” Balderas said. “I continue to commend the bravery of the young survivor in this case, who has already testified against two of her abusers, and we look forward to presenting this case at trial.”

Michael Stevens and three others (Bennie Wabbington, Casey Stallings, and Brandy Stevens) all stand accused of sexually molesting the same young woman during approximately the same time period. Two months ago, Judge Scott found probable cause to believe the ex-boyfriend of the young woman’s mother, Bennie Wabbington, also molested the young girl, and just last month her mother’s case against her was also bound over to district court. Stallings’ case is in bench-warrant status.

Stevens’ case will next be bound over to Eleventh Judicial District Court for trial on the charges. There is not yet a presiding judge or a trial date. Stevens faces 108 years in prison if convicted of all charges.

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